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renew in this country an acquaintance with his excellency the Japanese ambassador which began nearly eight years ago, in his far-away home. I feel that both his country and ours are fortunate in having in the diplomatic service one so fully equipped for the duties that fall to an ambassador. While no one could surpass him in devotion to the interests of his countrymen, it would be equally impossible to surpass him in the courtesy and kindness of spirit which are so valuable in international affairs. He has set so high a standard that the President has been careful to select as our representative to Japan a man of the highest character, of large experience, and sincerely appreciative of the greatness and the progress of the country to which he goes.

I am sure that Mr. Guthrie will meet the most exacting requirements of his great office, and that the delightful occasion in which we participate tonight may be regarded as fitly representing the amicable international relations which it will be the pleasure of these two gentlemen to maintain and strengthen.

In the *Independent* for June 19 the following paragraph is quoted from an address given by Mr. Bryan on Flag Day:

Only this morning I received assurances from the Empire of Japan of its desire to renew with the United States its general arbitration treaty. Before next Christmas I am expecting that at least twenty-five nations will have concluded with this country treaties by the terms of which controversies which cannot be adjusted otherwise may be referred to a disinterested international tribunal, thus practically insuring peace and justice between us and all of the great nations of the world.

Peace in the Balkans.

The war in the Balkans should be at an end. King George of Great Britain warned the delegates to the peace conference at London, Saturday, June 7, that "another war would be a crime against humanity." Diplomats have been busy at all the capitals of the Balkan States. The air was greatly cleared Sunday, June 8, by the Czar of Russia, who sent a telegram both to King Ferdinand and King Peter suggesting an arbitral conference in Salonica and St. Petersburg. The telegrams expressed regret that the Servian proposal had not been adopted, and set forth in no uncertain language the opposition of Russia to any plans for a new and fratricidal war. Sir Edward Grey, in an address, June 12, referred strongly to the present state of public opinion in Europe, and warned both Bulgaria and Servia that a new war between them might mean the loss of "the fruits of victory which they gained in the war with Turkey." Servia thereupon released her claims upon Monastir and made public her proposal to reduce her armies at once. But at this writing Bulgaria is finding it most difficult to adjust herself to the demands of Greece and Servia.

In the meantime it is quite generally agreed that the political situation in Turkey is little less than a condi-

tion of chronic vendetta. Mahmud Shefket Pasha, the Grand Vizier, a conservative of the party of Young Turks, was murdered in the streets of Constantinople, Wednesday, June 11. This act is looked upon as an expression of revenge for the murder of Nazim Pasha during the time of the last *coup d'état* by the Young Turks under Enver Bey. It is probable that other assassinations will follow. The army at Tchataldja is said to be planning trouble. There is no leader of promise in sight except Hilmi Pasha, from whom, we fear, little may be expected.

Japanese Studying Situation at First Hand.

Messrs. J. Soyeda and Tadao Kamiya, of Tokyo, representing the Associated Chambers of Commerce of Japan, together with Mr. George Shima, the "Potato King" of California, and Mr. H. Abiko, editor of a Japanese paper published in San Francisco, visited Washington for several days recently. Dr. Soyeda is recognized as one of the leading financiers of Japan, and with Mr. Kamiya may be said to represent the best in Japanese contemporary commercial life. These four gentlemen, studying the situation with reference to the California alien land law, were bearers of Japanese good will to the United States. In conversation with a representative of the *ADVOCATE OF PEACE* they acknowledged with simple but genuine eloquence Japan's great debt to the United States. Dr. Soyeda, speaking for the others, emphasized the great influence the United States has had upon the modern development of Japan, pointing out that the responsible leaders of his country look to the United States as their "mother country." He emphasized especially that Japan has patterned her constitution largely after the constitution of the United States; that she has, in fact, learned most of her democracy from this country; that in all matters of statecraft she has been a pupil of our statesmen and other leaders. He expressed his regret that any feeling of ill-will should have sprung up in certain quarters between these two friendly nations. All of the gentlemen seemed to feel that the war talk was confined wholly to irresponsible persons in Japan, as no doubt is the case in this country also.

While these gentlemen were in Washington wholly in an unofficial capacity, there is no doubt that their visit will accomplish much toward a better understanding between the two nations.

There can be no permanent breach between Japan and the United States. The United States will be true to the ancient faith of the fathers, who lived and labored that this land might be a refuge for the oppressed of all nations and that race distinctions might not enter into the question of citizenship. Immigration laws are nec-

essary, but uniform they must be. Naturalization laws may become stricter and the conditions more exacting; but they, too, must be impartially executed, irrespective of race. This is true of all races, but especially at this time of the race represented by the distinguished Dr. Soyeda and his companions.

Our Ambassador to Great Britain.

In accordance with a practice which may now be called ancient, Mr. Walter Hines Page was welcomed by the "Pilgrims" to his new post as American Ambassador to the Court of St. James at a dinner in the Hotel Savoy. A number of telegrams from America were read—one from the New York Press Club, another from Mr. John A. Stewart, and another from Joseph H. Choate, president of the Pilgrims of America.

Foreign Secretary Sir Edward Grey proposed the health of the guest of the evening, and assured Mr. Page that if he came to Great Britain with proposals arising from the desire of his government to find some way of making more remote an appeal to blind force between nations, he would find in England and would receive from the British government a ready response. The Secretary continued:

Of all great powers in the world, the United States is most fortunately placed for taking such an initiative. It is beyond the reach of menace or aggression from any neighbor in the American continent. The idea of menace or aggression on land toward the United States is both physically impossible and intellectually unthinkable. And on either side they enjoy the protection not of a channel, but of an ocean. And, after all, with all those natural advantages they have also, we know, the capacity and the resources, if they desired it, to create both a military and a naval force greater than anything the world has ever seen. Now if, from such a quarter, peace proposals come, they come beyond the suspicion of having been inspired by any feeling of pusillanimity, by any national necessity, or by any desire to secure an advantage in disarming or placing at a disadvantage any other nation who can injure them. In other words, if there are to be proposals to make war between other nations more remote, it is from the United States most certainly that these proposals could be made in the world at large with full dignity and with a good faith which is beyond suspicion. As to the relations between the two countries and the two nations, we rely not on treaties, not on diplomatic skill of governments, but we rely upon right and good feeling. It is good feeling that dictates the articles and the speeches and decides public opinion. Mr. Page has had so much more experience than I have in forming public opinion that I speak with hesitation in his presence; but I do think, especially perhaps in these days, when everything is speeded up, when we have to write and to speak perhaps more and more with less and less time for thought, it is more and more essential that things should be got not only into men's heads, but into their feelings. Right

thinking is of comparatively little use as public opinion unless it arises from right feeling. It is not men's heads, but it is their hearts, which decide public opinion. Lord Roberts, I won't trench on the next toast—which is connected with 100 years of peace—because I trust that, being on the eve of celebrating 100 years of peace between the two countries, it will be felt that in those celebrations is expressed much good feeling and good will between the two nations, that the peace between us is based not merely on community of interest, and not merely on kinship of race—because, although there is a great kinship of race between ourselves and the United States, yet it is also true that the United States is made up of one nation in which there are several different stocks. Nor is the peace, strong as those bonds are, based entirely upon community of religion or language. I believe it to be based on the sure and certain foundation of a feeling which is downright repugnance on the part of men on both sides of the Atlantic to the thought even of the relations between Great Britain and the United States being disturbed. One thought more. Great as is the friendly feeling between us today, it is a friendly feeling which I trust will still grow and develop, but to whatever degree it develops and however strong it becomes, I believe it is their wish, and I am sure that it is ours, that that friendly feeling between the two countries, though it may serve as an example to all nations, should never be a menace to any. I thank you for having given me the pleasure and the honor of proposing this toast, and I ask you to drink the health of "Our Guest."

Mr. Page's response was his first important address in Great Britain, and after a careful reading of it we judge that the high traditions of that important post maintained for a generation by Lowell, Phelps, Robert T. Lincoln, Baird, Hay, Choate, and Reid are not to be tarnished. We have long known that Mr. Walter Hines Page knows his United States. We now believe that he knows also Great Britain and the best in modern political aspirations. The following are extracts from his admirable speech:

I do not know how to thank you adequately for so hospitable and generous a welcome. No man could take it to himself, least of all a man so little known to you as I am. You pay me this great compliment as the representative of the President and of the people of the United States; and in their behalf I thank you heartily, and gratefully receive your friendly greeting. In turn, my errand here is to convey to you the respect and true friendship of the people of the United States; and, when you are pleased to receive me in so cordial a way, I feel that my business is most auspiciously begun. The time has long passed when there was need, if need there ever were, of makeshifts and make-believe in our intercourse; and surely it argues well for the spread of justice and of fair dealing and for the firmer establishment of the peace of the world that the two great nations of English-speaking folk speak frankly to one another. In our dealings, blood answers to blood, and our fundamental qualities of manhood are the same.

It is an inspiring spectacle—and history can show